

Abuse and Neglect Prevention/Reporting Procedures

██████████ has a zero-tolerance policy for abuse and neglect at camp. ██████████ programs promote the importance of positive re-enforcement and positive self-esteem. If it is suspected that any child may be suffering abuse or neglect, it must be reported immediately to the on-site Director who will then follow the guidelines below.

1. Recognize the following Symptoms:
 - a. Child is withdrawn; child is hard to get along with; won't leave others alone;
 - b. child can be shy, submissive, and anxious to please.
 - c. May act overly young or unusually adult physically, emotionally, or intellectually.
 - d. Child may state that he/she has been sexually abused.
 - e. Child may have bruises, welts, burns or fractures.
2. Observe the behavior of parents or caretakers with abuse in mind
3. The Camp Director must record all observations with dates and details
4. Massachusetts Law requires that any staff member suspecting child abuse or neglect must report the information to the Dept. of children and families. The child's family and/or the child's pediatrician must be informed of any filing made.
5. ██████████ requires that the Camp Director communicate any suspected abuse to the ██████████ Office and action will be taken with the appropriate authorities.
 - a. The Risk Manager shall notify the Board of Health of a 51A report.
 - b. ██████████ shall cooperate in all investigations of abuse and neglect alleged to have occurred at the camp.
 - c. ██████████ shall ensure that an allegedly abusive or neglectful staff member does not work directly with campers until the Massachusetts Department of children and families' investigation is completed.

To contact the Department of children and families, please call the Main Office at (617) 748-2000, or, write to them at the following address:

Department of Children and Families
24 Farnsworth Street
Boston, MA 02210

A copy of the report should also be sent to the local BOH.